

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (Draft RP/EA) was prepared in compliance with the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) (33 U.S.C. § 2701, *et seq.*) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*) to address restoration of injured natural resources and lost ecological and recreational services resulting from the *T/B Morris J. Berman* grounding and oil spill off the coast of San Juan, Puerto Rico, on January 7, 1994. The Draft RP/EA was drafted by the Federal and Commonwealth trustee agencies affected by the oil spill, which include the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER); the National Park Service (NPS), on behalf of the United States Department of the Interior (DOI); and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the United States Department of Commerce (collectively, the Trustees).

The purpose of restoration, as outlined in this Draft RP/EA, is to make the environment and public whole for injuries to natural resources and natural resource services by returning them (through primary restoration) to their baseline conditions (the level that would have existed if the grounding and spill had not occurred) and/or compensating for the interim loss of resources and services pending recovery to baseline (through compensatory restoration). Because primary restoration is infeasible for this spill, the Trustees have proposed a variety of compensatory restoration projects to compensate the public for injuries to and lost services from three injured resource types—reef resources, recreational beach use, and recreational use and enjoyment of historic sites.

The Draft RP/EA sets forth the Trustees' recommendations for a variety of restoration projects to compensate the public for injuries to and lost services from the three injured resource types.

The Draft RP/EA describes the proposed restoration projects, evaluates the environmental impacts of the restoration projects, and estimates the costs of completing the restoration projects. Proposed restoration projects are evaluated against relevant criteria, and preferred restoration projects are identified. Restoration alternatives selected as preferred for the lost reef services include Modular Reef Habitat Construction, Acquisition of Equivalent Lost Services, and Seagrass Restoration. The preferred restoration alternative selected for lost recreational beach use is Acquisition of Lands for Conservation. The three restoration alternatives selected as preferred for lost and diminished use of the San Juan National Historic Site include Improve and Extend the Coastal Promenade, Restore El Morro Water Battery, and Clean/Stabilize Exterior Walls of the Historic Site.

In addition to presenting the recommendations of the Trustees, the Draft RP/EA includes information on how the public can provide comments on the proposed restoration projects and offer suggestions for other restoration projects.